



## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-SFUND-2005-0007; FRL-9522-2]

### **Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to OMB for Review and Approval; Comment Request; EPA Worker Protection Standards for Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (Renewal)**

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA)(44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this document announces that an Information Collection Request (ICR) has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval. This is a request to renew an existing approved collection. The ICR, which is abstracted below, describes the nature of the information collection and its estimated burden and cost.

**DATES:** Additional comments may be submitted on or before [insert date 30 days after publication in the Federal Register].

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments, referencing Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-SFUND-2005-0007, to (1) EPA online using [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) (our preferred method), by email to [superfund.docket@epa.gov](mailto:superfund.docket@epa.gov) or by mail to: EPA Docket Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Mail Code 28221T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20460, and (2) OMB by mail to: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Attention: Desk Officer for EPA, 725 17<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Washington, DC 20503.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sella M. Burchette, U.S. Environmental Response Team, MS 101, Building 205, Edison, NJ 08837, telephone number: 721-321-6726; fax number: 732-321-6724; email address: [burchette.sella@epa.gov](mailto:burchette.sella@epa.gov)

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** EPA has submitted the following ICR to OMB for

review and approval according to the procedures prescribed in 5 CFR 1320.12. On May 25, 2012 (77ER31352), EPA sought comments on this ICR pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.8(d). EPA received several comments that were not related to this ICR. Any additional comments on this ICR should be submitted to EPA and OMB within 30 days of this notice.

EPA has established a public docket for this ICR under Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-SFUND-2005-0007 which is available for online viewing at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), or in person viewing at the Superfund Docket in the EPA Docket Center (EPA/DC), EPA West, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC. The EPA/DC Public Reading Room is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Reading Room is 202-566-1744, and the telephone number for the Superfund Docket is 202-566-0276.

Use EPA's electronic docket and comment system at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), to submit or view public comments, access the index listing of the contents of the docket, and to access those documents in the docket that are available electronically. Once in the system, select "docket search," then key in the docket ID number identified above. Please note that EPA's policy is that public comments, whether submitted electronically or in paper, will be made available for public viewing at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) as EPA receives them and without change, unless the comment contains copyrighted material, confidential business information (CBI), or other information whose public disclosure is restricted by statute. For further information about the electronic docket, go to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov).

**Title:** EPA Worker Protection Standards for Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (Renewal)

**ICR numbers:** EPA ICR No. 1426.10, OMB Control No. 2050-0105.

**ICR Status:** This ICR is scheduled to expire on 08/31/12. Under OMB regulations, the Agency may continue to conduct or sponsor the collection of information while this submission is pending at OMB.” An Agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information, unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control numbers for EPA's regulations in title 40 of the CFR, after appearing in the Federal Register when approved, are listed in 40 CFR part 9, are displayed either by publication in the Federal Register or by other appropriate means, such as on the related collection instrument or form, if applicable. The display of OMB control numbers in certain EPA regulations is consolidated in 40 CFR part 9.

**Abstract:** Section 126(f) of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA) requires EPA to set worker protection standards for State and local employees engaged in hazardous waste operations and emergency response in the 27 States that do not have Occupational Safety and Health Administration approved State plans. The EPA coverage, required to be identical to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards, extends to three categories of employees: those engaged in clean-ups at uncontrolled hazardous waste sites, including corrective actions at Treatment, Storage and Disposal (TSD) facilities regulated under the Resource Conservation and recovery Act (RCRA); employees working at routine hazardous waste operations at RCRA TSD facilities, and employees involved in emergency response operations without regard to location. This ICR renews existing mandatory record keeping collection of ongoing activities including monitoring of any potential employee exposure at uncontrolled hazardous waste sites, maintaining records of employee training, refresher training, medical exams and reviewing emergency response plans.

**Burden Statement:** The annual public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection is

estimated to average 10.69 hours per response. Burden means the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, disclose or provide information to or for a Federal agency. This includes the time needed to review instructions; develop, acquire, install, and utilize technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; adjust the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements which have subsequently changed; train personnel to be able to respond to a collection of information; search data sources; complete and review the collection of information; and transmit or otherwise disclose the information.

Respondents/Affected Entities: State and local employees engaged in hazardous waste operations and emergency response in the 27 States that do not have OSHA approved State plans.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 23,900

Frequency of response: Annually.

Estimated total average number of responses for each respondent: 1

Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 255,477 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: \$3,525,588, includes \$0 annualized capital or O&M costs.

Changes in the Estimates: There is a decrease of 56,203 hours in the total estimated burden currently identified in the OMB Inventory of Approved ICR Burdens. This is due to an adjustment accounting for improved computer programs for recordkeeping.

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